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CITY NEWS

50¢

Volume 11, Number 40

Serving The Greater Metropolitan Newark Area Since 1983

Wednesday, July 12, 1995

INSIDE

Supreme Court labeled "disappointing" to needs of blacks
News page 3

Multi-million dollar loan pool approved for minority businesses
page 8

Bopha! continues Black Film Festival
page 7

Grants approved for child abuse prevention

TRENTON—Governor Christie Whitman and Human Services Commissioner William Waldman announced more than \$800,000 in Children's Trust Funds (CTF) grants to 40 child abuse prevention programs throughout the state.

At a ceremony in the State House Rotunda, Whitman commended the work of the Trust Fund, which is based in the Department of Human Services and has funded 279 programs since its inception in 1985.

Whitman also presented a letter of appreciation to Leonor and Roger Medina, of Iselin, whose son, Nicholas, died at age 11 months from shaken baby and head trauma injuries inflicted by his father.

The Medinas arranged for contributions to be made to CTF in memory of their son.

Dr. Munir Kasim, a Palisades resident who has provided the Trust Fund with both financial and in-kind contributions, was honored and an aide to

See GRANTS/page 6

AT&T introduces philanthropic fund

BASKING RIDGE, NJ—A philanthropic program introduced by AT&T will make \$100,000 in funds available to arts and cultural organizations located in Newark, Jersey City and Plainfield.

Called "New Audiences for the 21st Century," the program supports non-profit arts organizations located in the three cities that propose new ways of keeping their current audiences and attracting new ones.

"We worked hand-in-hand with the arts communities in three of New Jersey's most diverse cities to design a program they felt would work," said Robert Nerenstein, community relations director for AT&T. "They told us some of their greatest concerns are about collaboration and urban image. That's why we put special emphasis in the program on those two areas," he added.

Earlier spring of this year, AT&T associates held meetings in each city with leaders of over 50 community cultural and civic organizations. During these sessions, participants talked about the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and obstacles facing them in their respective endeavors. Other key issues identified in all three communities included developing an awareness of arts in the community and marketing the arts. This information was then turned into a "request for proposal" that was sent last week to arts organizations in each city.

AT&T was assisted in the design of the philanthropic program by arts consultant Eduardo Garcia of Plainsboro.

The deadline for applications to "New Audiences for the 21st Century" is August 18. Awards will be announced in early October. Organizations in Newark, Jersey City and Plainfield that wish to apply for grants should call Elba Delgado at 908-221-4403.

NEWARK BOARD FIGHTS FOR CONTROL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT

by Sherry Burns

NEWARK—Newark Board of Education members and many school officials are looking for that silver lining that hides behind every dark cloud as they may be headed to the unemployment office if a vote by state Board of Education to take over the Newark school system is upheld

by a NJ Supreme Court.

A decision is scheduled to be rendered, Wednesday, July 12, on whether a permanent stay pending an appeal will be granted to the Newark school district.

On Wednesday, July 5, the state board voted to take over the district because Newark had failed to "take the corrective actions necessary to

establish a thorough and efficient system of education in the district," according to the 44-page decision released by the State Department of Education.

It appears to be an unwarranted situation for both sides. The local board (Newark) contends they must have their day in court, to address and challenge the findings in the Comprehensive Compliance Investigation

(CCI) conducted over two years ago.

"The Superintendent's position has been that we deserve to have our day in court to address the charges and issues that have been brought forward by the state (in the CCI)," said Michelle Baldwin, a spokesperson from Superintendent Eugene Campbell's office.

Meanwhile, the state says a hearing could take over a year and preparations need to be taken as the school year draws near.

"It's not so much being opposed to a hearing for the board members, it's being opposed to a delay for the children. It's a question of balancing one set of rights against the other,"

See CONTROL/page 8

New NNPA president vows expanded role for black newspapers



NNPA President-elect Dorothy Leavell

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK—Dorothy R. Leavell, in her first public statement as president-elect of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), urged the association to "move purposefully and aggressively to the forefront of the na-

tional and international dialogue on the issues affecting black people."

Representing more than 200 weekly publications nationwide, Mike Leavell, who was elected during the NNPA's annual convention in Oklahoma City, said the association, "teaching millions of blacks every week," will "narrow its focus to help our constituents work together and create real change."

"We intend to work closely with the NAACP, the National Urban League, Operation PUSH and other major national and international organizations to make certain that the concerns of black people worldwide are properly articulated," she said.

Leavell is publisher and editor of the *Chicago Crusader* and the *Gary (Ind.) Crusader* newspapers. She is the second female to head the NNPA in the history of the 55-year-old trade

association.

"We in the corporate community have long observed Mrs. Leavell as a hard-working, intelligent and skilled administrator serving in volunteer positions on the NNPA," said Frank Gomez, director of Public Programs, Philip Morris Companies Inc.

"I feel confident in Mrs. Leavell's ability to continue the good work begun by her able and dedicated predecessor, Robert Bogle, as she leads the NNPA through the challenges facing the black press in the years ahead," Gomez added.

An NNPA member for more than 20 years, Leavell has held a number of offices within the association. She says she will continue the efforts begun as treasurer to keep the association up to date with the latest advances in business and newsroom technology.

Mrs. Leavell also said she will continue to move the NNPA's office toward full computerization and plan to reinstate the association's dormant wire service, which will provide timely news and information of interest to members through the NNPA's black newspapers.

What happens to state-run schools?

TRENTON—The following list of operations is what the Newark school district and all other New Jersey School districts under state rule will experience.

If the State desires, a state district superintendent is appointed.

The district board of education is removed and the state district superintendent has all the powers and authority previously held by the board.

A 15-member board of education is established by the Commissioner within 60 days after the state-operated district is established.

The Commissioner appoints 13 of these members and two are appointed by the local governing board of the municipality. (This board acts in an advisory capacity only.)

This board meets at least once a month with the state district superintendent.

No less than twice a year, the board reports in writing to the state district superintendent concerning its assessment of district progress.

The positions of chief school administrator and those executive administrators responsible for curriculum, business and finance, and personnel are abolished. The individuals may not retain tenure in these abolished positions, but may claim seniority rights to other positions within the school district.

Within six months, the state district superintendent reorganizes the entire central administrative and supervisory staff and evaluates all individuals employed in central administrative and supervisory staff positions.

Upon the reorganization, the positions of the central administrative and supervisory staff-instructional and non-instructional—are abolished.

The state district superintendent may hire a person whose position has been abolished to a new position within the reorganized central office structure.

These individuals may be rehired with tenure if they had tenure in their previous positions. They may also continue to accrue tenure.

An individual not rehired into a central administrative or supervisory position in the reorganized district may assert tenure and seniority rights to other positions in the district which are not central administrative or supervisory positions.

The state district superintendent appoints individuals to serve as state assistant superintendents, but state assistant superintendents may not obtain tenure.

Building principals are evaluated based on criteria developed by the Commissioner.

An assessment unit is established by the state district superintendent for the purpose of conducting principal evaluations.

At least three evaluations are conducted for each principal within six months of the district's reorganization of central office staff.

After an assessment cycle of 12 months, the state district superintendent may seek to dismiss any tenured principal for inefficiency, incapacity, unbecoming conduct, or any other just cause, as defined by the criteria. Hearings for the dismissal of tenured principals are conducted on an expedited basis.

The state district superintendent provides the commissioner with an annual assessment of the progress of the district toward meeting certification requirements.

At the April election of the fourth year following the creation of a state-operated school district, a nine-member board of education is elected from the 15-member appointed board.

The state superintendent retains veto power over the board's actions until the State Board reestablishes local control. Once local control is granted, the board functions with the same authority as any other local board of education, but the state district superintendent serves for a one-year transition period.

Based upon the annual assessment of progress and the district's having received state certification, but not sooner than five years after the establishment of the state-operated school district, the commissioner may recommend to the State Board that local control be reestablished.

The State Board has the authority to determine whether to continue state operation or to return the district to local control after a minimum of five years of state control.

War: America's ultimate goal

U.S. funnels billions of dollars into military build-up

WASHINGTON, DC—Those of you who watched CNN-TV's *Larry King Live*, with Mario Cuomo hosting and Jesse Jackson and Oliver North as guests, know that North still believes the Russians are coming to get us.

According to North, Russia, which could not quickly defeat a small seceding republic, and since the break up of the Soviet Union has cut its own military spending by two-thirds, is still a threat to the U.S.—which is still spending 90 percent of what it spent during the Cold War.

According to the Republicans and Democratic conservatives who advocate increased military spending, we are still at risk, even though the U.S. is spending as much on defense as the entire world combined.

The Senate Armed Services Committee just voted \$264.7 billion and

See WAR/page 6



Everyday U.S. forces undergo drills like this one in preparation for war. Marine photo

JUST THINKING

Class-based preference born as race-based preference dies

by Maurice A. Dawkins

Often, the old folks used to say a new baby is born to make up for the death of an older person in the family.

The funeral of grandmother leaves sadness but it is offset by the birth of a new grand baby that brings gladness. Black folks used to say, "Nobody knows the trouble I see," and then in the same breath proclaim, "Glory Hallelujah!" The irony American history is, in part, the joy that emerges in spite of the sadness that has to be endured.

Black progress, coming in the midst of and in spite of injustice and inequality is a mystery that made Martin Luther King, Jr. followers sing, "We shall overcome," while racist sheriff Bull Connor, the vicious police dogs and the power of firehoses were marshaled against them. The Bible students turn to a passage that says that all things work together for good for them that love the Lord. So it is that the dying process that has "race-based preference" in a terminal condition is matched by a creative process that is bringing "class-based prefer-

ence" into the world of public policy.

A compassionate capitalism or a caring conservatism may not be at the top of the agenda in most black communities as they analyze what's happening in America today. Yet, the talk around Congress and the White House is that people who need help the most should be helped—people of all colors and races. Economically disadvantaged or poor people working and non-working, should be given a hand up and not a hand out. Tax users can be converted into tax-

See PREFERENCE/page 3

PEOPLE

Khemi FreeMan found his way

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12
NEWARK—Mary McLeod Bethune 120th birthday celebration at The Newark Public Library from 6 to 8 p.m.

CRAWFORD—Financial Aid Workshop at Union County College at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. For more info call 908-773-7141.

EAST ORANGE—Systas 4 Systas Educational AIDS program at East Orange High School at 4:15 p.m. For more info call 201-473-2193.

THURSDAY, JULY 13
JERSEY CITY—Legal Education Night program at Jersey City State College from 4:30 to 6 p.m. For more info call 201-205-3189.

ELIZABETH—Financial Aid Workshop at Union County College at 6 p.m. For more info call 908-965-6061.

BROOKLYN—Baby gorilla twins at the Bronx Zoo at 11 a.m. For more info call 212-220-9197.

FRIDAY, JULY 14
NEWARK—Newark Museum presents a family theater evening. *The Fool and the Flying Ship* at 1:30 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6550.

HACKENSACK—Women Working Theater presentation for a 6 month training program at Bergen County Technical Schools. For more info call 201-343-6000, ext. 2293.

JULY 14-16
BELVIDERE—Native American Powwow at Matanzas Park. For more info call 908-475-3872.

SATURDAY, JULY 15
PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Outdoor Festival of Art (exhibitions) at Library Park. For more info call 908-754-7250.

HOBOKEN—Puerto Rican Cultural Festival at Church Square Park from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more info call (day) 201-420-2017 or (eve) 201-217-0586.

NEWARK—"Consider the Times" (play) at Newark Symphony Hall. For more info call 201-399-0383.

TUESDAY, JULY 18
TUESDAY—Jazz at the Plaza featuring Ronnell Bay at 6 p.m. at Aspinwall Plaza and 4th Ave. For more info call 201-266-5147 or 5123.

JULY 18, 25
NEW BRUNSWICK—"Preparing for the first year of college workshop" at Rutgers University's College Avenue campus. For more info call 908-932-6669 or 1-800-H-BUGGERS.

SUNDAY, JULY 19
VCR ALERT—"Lions of Darkness-Part II" airs on TBS at 11 p.m.

THRU JULY 20
WAYNE—"1995 Summer Institute on Education" (seminars on educational practices in use across the nation) at William Paterson College. For more info call 201-595-2436.

JERSEY CITY—"Twenty-sixth annual Cinema Institute" at Jersey City State College from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more info call 201-200-2120.

FRIDAY, JULY 21
FRIDAY—Family Theater with *The Light of the Silvery Moon* puppet and

lively action show at the Newark Museum at 1:30 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6550.

SATURDAY, JULY 22
WATCHING—An afternoon with John Copeland (photographer) at the Watchdog Arts Center from 3 to 5 p.m. For more info call 908-753-0190.

NEWARK—"Reconciliation—How it is Supported to Work" workshop for tenants at 95 Fleming Ave. at 10 a.m. For more info call 201-344-7210.

JULY 23-28
WAYNE—"Summer Jazz Improvisation Workshop" at William Paterson College for high school and college students. For more info call 201-595-2436.

JULY 24-28
WAYNE—"Jazz 101" series at William Paterson College. For more info call 201-595-2371.

FRIDAY, JULY 28
NEWARK—Family Theater with Charlotte Blackston presenting *The Heart of My People* in the African oral tradition at the Newark Museum at 1:30 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6550.

JULY 28-30
ENGLEWOOD—Black doll show, sale and (doll making) workshop featuring Rhonda Stewart at the Radisson Hotel. For more info call 201-568-4709.

THRU JULY 28
NEWARK—Newark Black Film Festival at the Newark Museum. For more info call 201-596-6550.

NOW THRU JULY 30
NEW YORK—"New York Saved: Thirty Years of Landmarks Preservation" exhibit at The Museum of the City of New York. For more info call 212-534-1672.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1
SEA ISLE CITY—"National Night Out Against Crime" (exhibits, food, music, entertainment) at Dealy Field. For more info call 609-263-2830.

AUGUST 4-6
PITTSBURGH—"The Magic of Alexandria" at the Alexandria Festival. For more info call 703-735-0870.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
NEWARK—"Basic Tenet Rights" workshop for tenants at 95 Fleming Ave. at 10 a.m. For more info call 201-344-7210.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6
BELMAR—Family Fun Evening Kitefly at the North end of the beach. For more info call 908-787-4945.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9
MOUNTAINVIEW—"The NJ Symphony Orchestra at Echo Lake Park at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 908-527-4900 or 908-332-9410.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11
NEWARK—"Family Theater with One Family One Planet," a musical celebration of our diverse world at the Newark Museum at 1:30 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6550.

THRU AUGUST 15
PLAINFIELD—"Basic Literacy Tutoring Training Workshop" on Tuesdays at the Plainfield Public Library from 6 to 8 p.m. For more info or to be a tutor call 908-755-7998.

WAYNE—When Kim "Khemi" FreeMan decides to do something, he says, "You find a way." Nicknamed "Shark," because according to folklore sharks never rest—they must keep swimming to stay alive, Khemi was determined to get a college education.

Upon graduating Eastside High School in Paterson, NJ in 1978, he enrolled at William Paterson College (WPC) but was forced to leave to help support his mother and five younger brothers. He tried again in 1983, but again was forced to drop out to support his two children.

In 1992, after earning his associate's degree from Passaic County Community College, he transferred to WPC with the financial backing of scholarships from the Alumni Association, Parents Association, Black Students Association and other sources.

The following year he had the opportunity to study abroad. He chose the American University in Cairo,

Egypt, because of his African studies major. "As an African American, I had been taught that Egypt was the cradle of African civilization," he said.

The American University has one of the best Egyptology programs in the world. With the archaeological wonders of that country as laboratories—

FreeMan is a founding member and first president of Brothers for Awareness, a black men's united group for support and the quest for excellence and recently he was named to the Paterson schools "Crisis Intervention Task Force" after a black teenager was shot by a white police officer.

This May, FreeMan joined the line of WPC graduates to accept his bachelor's degree in African, American and Caribbean Studies.

"This country is great; it can be even greater if we stop judging people by their color and start judging them by their character," he adds.



A Dream Fulfilled: Khemi FreeMan is congratulated by (from left) his brother Alan, son Clay, daughter Dawn and mother, Georgianna Pynes.

Saul and Maria Orkin memorial scholarship established at UCC

CRAWFORD—The sons of the late Dr. Saul Orkin, who served as president of Union County College from 1974 until his death in 1983, have underwritten an annual scholarship award in memory of their parents, Dr. Orkin and his late wife Maria.

Philip and Neil Orkin made the contribution which has been labeled by college officials as sizeable, to enable the Saul and Maria Orkin Memorial Award to continue "in perpetuity," with awards to be distributed annually based on the interest earned on the endowment fund.

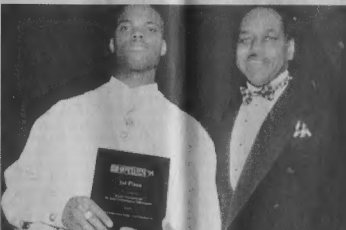
The award will be given annually to a graduating student who will enroll in a baccalaureate degree program and enter the field of law or political science following successful completion of associate degree

studies at Union County College. According to Philip Orkin, they decided to have their mother's name added to the title of the award because "they (his parents) felt so strongly about the college."

"Our father had a unique standing at Union County College as a student, professor and later as president; having guided it through some crucial years prior to his death," noted Philip.

"Our parents not only felt strongly about the college, but about higher education in general," Philip concluded.

GospelFest winners perform at Lincoln Center



Accepting the first and second place plaques on the stage of Avery Fisher Hall are choir director and president of the St. John Youth Ensemble, David Ash, (above left) and Sharon Youth Ensemble choir director, Jermaine Cenac (below). Awards were presented by Ron Bailey, (above right) McDonald's owner/operator and chairman of the GospelFest.

WESTORANGE—The Youth Ensemble of St. John Deliverance Tabernacle of Nyack, NY were first place winners in the 11th Annual McDonald's GospelFest community celebration.

Second place went to Sharon Youth Gospel Ensemble of Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church in the Bronx with Bethel Pentecostal Church Choir of Oyster Bay capturing third place.

As part of the winning package, the groups performed on stage with gospel recording artist Helen Baylor in front of a full house.

In addition, St. John Ensemble received a full production/recording session with Sony Music and a cash prize of \$3,000. The Sharon Ensemble was awarded \$2,500 and Bethel Pentecostal Church Choir garnered \$2,000.

City News, the power of the city



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NATION

National News at a glance

SUPREME COURT LABELED 'DISAPPOINTING' TO BLACK NEEDS

A series of recent decisions by the United States Supreme Court has prompted civil rights leaders to label the highest court in the land "disappointing" and even hostile to the needs and rights of American blacks. National black political leader Jesse Jackson termed a recent court ruling on affirmative action "very disappointing." Analysts say the nine-member court now has a solid five person majority which is voting with consistent hostility on issues generally advocated by black leaders. As predicted, among the justices voted consistently against traditional black issues is the court's only black member, Clarence Thomas. Prior to being named to the court, the politically conservative Thomas had voiced his opposition to affirmative action programs and court rulings which forced increased school integration.—WASHINGTON, DC

REPUBLICANS MAY SLOW UP ANTI- AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CRUSADE

House Republican leaders indicated last week that they plan to place their anti-affirmative crusade on the back burner, at least for a while. Affirmative action programs were originally designed to give preferential treatment to blacks and other minorities as a way to compensate for past discrimination. But Republicans and their presidential candidates have been attacking the programs (with major recent success) by labeling them unnecessary and discriminatory against whites. However, observers believe the Republicans are simply staging a tactical slow down to avoid further alienating black voters as they prepare for the 1996 presidential election.—WASHINGTON, DC

PHYLLIS HYMAN AND LINCOLN RAGSDALE DEAD

Lincoln Ragsdale, a Phoenix, Ariz.-based multi-millionaire businessman and Phyllis Hyman, renowned singer and concert star, of Philadelphia died recently. Hyman, who was 45, is reported to have died in New York City from a self-inflicted overdose of prescription drugs. During his 68 years, Ragsdale headed the National Business League (NBL) and founded various investment, insurance, construction and restaurant businesses. He died of colon cancer.—WASHINGTON, DC

DOLE'S CAMPAIGN MANGER IN DISCRIMINATION SUIT

The Washington, DC News Dimensions newspaper reports that Senator Robert Dole's (R-Kansas) presidential campaign manager, Scott S. Reed, is named as a defendant in a racial job bias lawsuit. Scott has been accused by an African-American female, Phyllis A. Wright, of being involved in discriminatory actions toward her dismissal from a Schedule C position at the office of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1991. Wright and Scott were both political appointees in the Bush Administration. The trial will commence this summer, well before the final stages of Dole's presidential campaign.—WASHINGTON, DC

COMMISSION HIGHLY CRITICAL OF CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT

The U.S. Civil Rights Commission released a bitter report charging that enforcement of civil rights laws has become so lax that some people have to wait 10 years to get their complaints resolved. Commission chairman Mary Frances Berry called on President Clinton to devote more time and money to civil rights enforcement. She said, "I know these are tough budget times. This is not where to do the cutting."—WASHINGTON, DC

Federal Crime Bill funds to aide Crisis Intervention Teams

WASHINGTON, DC—Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ) has urged Governor Christine Whitman to set aside a portion of the federal Crime Bill funds recently awarded to New Jersey to support volunteer Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT), which train volunteers to work with police to meet the special needs of victims of domestic violence.

The state has received \$426,364 for FY 1995 under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). While some of these findings are earmarked for law enforcement and prosecution of abusers, 25 percent can be used for non-profit victim services and another 25 percent can be used according to the state's discretion. Money to support CIT programs could potentially come from either of these two categories.

"We know Crisis Intervention Teams are effective because we've seen the difference they've made in many New Jersey neighborhoods," said Senator Bradley. "Since New Jersey communities have been pioneers of this successful approach, I think it's not only appropriate, but essential that the state reinforce these efforts wherever possible," the senator added.

"As part of last year's Crime Bill, Congress passed (VAWA). New Jersey has been awarded a VAWA grant of \$426,364 for fiscal year 1995. This federal funding is available to enhance effective law enforcement, prosecution strategies and victim services in cases involving violence against women."

In a letter to Governor Whitman, Senator Bradley urged her to consider "how best to utilize the VAWA grant and to provide funding for the CIT program."

"As you are aware, crisis intervention teams work in partnership with law enforcement to provide early intervention services to victims of domestic violence. Crisis intervention teams have enjoyed enormous success. Indeed, the New Jersey legislature recently recognized the value of this program by providing for the involvement of crisis intervention teams in the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act."

Because of the effectiveness of the partnerships between local police departments and crisis intervention teams, women in New Jersey are increasingly able to find shelter.

The CIT program at the core of Bradley's legislation involves a partnership between local law enforcement, social service agencies and trained volunteers, who accompany police to the scene of a domestic violence incident to counsel the victim. Volunteers refer women to shelters, help arrange child care, explain legal rights and provide other critical assistance.

"The sad truth is that resources to help victims of domestic violence are severely limited, and there are profound gaps in the system. A trained volunteer can help fill some of these gaps and may very well provide the support that prompts a woman to escape danger for good," said Senator Bradley.

Leavell

Continued from page 1

dominant wire service, which will provide timely news and information of interest to blacks through the NNPA's member newspapers.

In keeping with her pledge to increase NNPA involvement with international issues, Leavell recently traveled to Dakar, Senegal, with an NNPA delegation to participate in

See LEAVELL/page 4

Preference

Continued from page 1

if people have job training and jobs, business opportunities and a level playing field. Republicans as well as Democrats are "talking that talk" and the legislation being considered promises to make it possible to "walk that walk."

I was just thinking, why should the son of a white trash collector be denied an opportunity in order to give special preference because they don't need it? Should race and color entitle a person to special preference in the 1990's and the 21st century? Or is it better to look at the poverty classification or the economic condition as the key factor to determine what the government will or will not do to help?

Historically, race-based preference has meant "The white race gets all the preference." Then, with the advent of the civil rights movement and laws in the 60s, it was defined to mean "black race gets some compensatory preference."

Now comes a new day, when the idealists say no race should have any preference. Everybody of all races should have the same opportunity—

black, white, brown, yellow or red. Race-based preference is out!

President Clinton said, "I want us to emphasize need-based programs where we can because they work better and have a bigger impact and generate broader support."

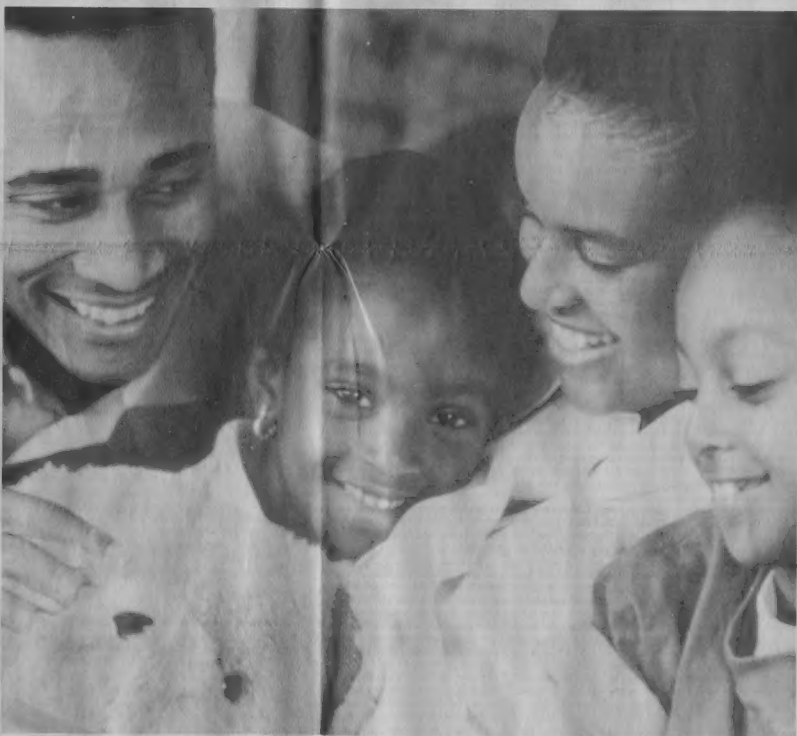
House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) says he favors rewriting affirmative action laws so they favor the poor instead of certain ethnic groups.

Senate majority leader, Bob Dole (R-Kan.), said he is opposed to discrimination in any form against any group. He favors equal justice under the law and equal economic opportunities for all.

In the battle for the minds of the President and the Congress, class-based preference advocates seem to be winning. It looks like class-based preference will prove to be socially acceptable and politically popular on a bi-partisan basis. Race-based preference advocates are losing the battle. The Review Commission of the President and the Senate and a House committee scheduled to hold hearings and recommend legislation, are proceeding full steam ahead.

Just as everybody who was anybody agreed to disagree agreeably in opposition to terrorism, so it seems there will be a consensus in opposition to class-based preference.

See PREFERENCE/page 8



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EDITORIAL

The State Education Plan is not designed to educate children from poor districts

On Wednesday, the state board of Education voted 9-1 to take over the Newark schools. The board contends that Newark Schools take over is justified because the schools have failed to educate children as evidenced by consistently low test scores and high drop out rate. The take over proceeds by eliminating the elected board of education and the top administrators. In essence blaming them for the failure. There is argument, given that the facts speak for themselves, it is clear that the children of Newark and many other urban districts are being severely undereducated.

The state justification for the takeover, however, lacks true merit and objectivity. The state for example based its take over decision based on comparative statistics of Newark's failure relative to succeeding districts. Such comparison is like comparing apples and oranges. The high poverty rate of children in Newark and other urban districts is totally disregarded. Yet the state is fully aware of the high correlation between poverty and under achievement in schools. Comparing the urban districts with suburban districts on percent who passed a state test does not tell us enough and may mask the common under performance for economically limited youngsters even in the so called achieving districts. The one and two percent in those districts may represent a larger percent of the poorer students in those districts.

Likewise the state has failed to deliver two important items that all of us should be given in any take over situation. First, the state should demonstrate that they have made a difference in the performance record for students in the seized districts. Second, they should present a plan for achievement vs. the plan for take over. The state has literally failed to present to the public their plan to create achievement. Does a plan exist? Even if the state fails to give evidence that they can or are willing to educate poor children, the state must admit that its current requirement and educational policies fail children from poor communities and they have not been willing to create a plan to seriously help students from such communities to achieve, justified because the schools have failed to educate children as evidenced by consistently low test scores and high drop out rate. The take over proceeds by eliminating the elected board of education and the top administrators. In essence blaming them for the failure. Their argument, given that the facts speak for themselves, it is clear that the children of Newark and many other urban districts are being severely undereducated.

PASTOR'S WORD

Beware of Republican promises

By Rev. Reginald Jackson & Rufford Wheeler

The new Republican majority in Congress promised us a revolution. A revolution that would drastically change this country. To their credit, they are making every effort to keep their word. To our dismay, their revolution threatens to inflict pain and turn back progress made over the last 50 to 60 years.

Last week, the Republican leadership in both the Senate and the House announced agreement on a resolution that would balance the federal budget in seven years (2002). The budget, in addition to balancing the budget, would provide a \$50 tax credit for each child under 18, as well as tax cuts of about \$245 billion over the next seven years. In addition, there are capital gains tax cuts, marriage penalty, business and other tax cuts. All of this sounds good and makes the Republican plan look good. But, before we start rejoicing, be reminded that things are not always what they seem.

This balanced budget plan, if enacted, will inflict pain and suffering upon the poor, children, senior citizens, and the middle class. In short, this budget will hurt everybody except the well-to-do and the wealthiest in this country.

And this is not partisan sniping, this is the painful reality. Democrats, Republicans and Independents, blacks, whites and Hispanics, urban, suburban and rural will be negatively impacted if this budget passes. Those who voted for this revolution will regret the day. Let's look at how it will affect us.

Seniors will be burdened by huge limits on spending for Medicare and Medicaid. Meaning they will likely have to pay higher medical bills and be funneled into managed care sys-

tems. Seniors, many on fixed incomes, whose resources are limited, will be required to pay more than they can afford.

The poor will not only have all programs that benefit them limited; welfare, food stamps and a host of other programs, but the opportunity to get off these programs, to become self-reliant is being taken away from them. Funds for child care, so persons can look for work or go to work and job training, so that people can be trained for jobs, are being cut. This insensitivity keeps the poor "poor" and closes the door to their way out of poverty.

The middle class, whom this revolution was to benefit the most, will perhaps suffer the most. They will have the huge cost of paying their children's college cost with little or no financial aid and still have additional cost of paying for all the services that used to be provided by the federal government. Now those responsibilities will fall to the states such as clean water, highways and mass transit.

With huge cuts in funds that used to come from Washington, states will have to find some way to deliver services and guess who will pay for them? It seems the only group that will not suffer any pain are the "well-to-do" or the wealthy.

Everything benefits them; the income tax cut, capital gains cut, business tax cuts, everything! The balanced budget resolution will cause them no pain. The national debt and erasing it should be shared by all of us, that's fairness. But to put the burden on everybody but the wealthy, those who can bear the most pain, is unfair, insensitive and unjustifiable. It is imperative that each of us call or write our senator and congressman and urge them to oppose the balanced budget resolution.

CITY NEWS

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OPINION

by Connie Woodruff

The bad news for friends, supporters and well-wishers behind former Newark councilman the Rev. Ralph T. Grant, Jr. is the affable, charming onetime political leader was sentenced to a 33-month prison term and fined \$26,000 for illegally trying to influence the awarding of a city towing contract.

The good news is he will remain free on bail while seeking an appeal. If he does not win a reversal, Grant must serve the entire term as mandated by federal law.

Former councilman Gary Harris, scheduled to be sentenced last week, was a brief reprieve when U.S. District Court Judge John C. Lifland delayed his sentencing until the end of the month.

Federal prosecutors seek a stiffer prison sentence of \$1 to 63 months for Harris, described as the driving force in a scheme that convicted the two former city officials of taking kick-

backs in an FBI sting revolving around a local phony towing company.

According to eyewitnesses, Grant maintained the "cool" for which he is well known as he listened to judge Lifland describe the "dozens and dozens" of letters regarding Grant's extensive community service work and vouching for his character. Those letters were considered when he was deciding Grant's sentence, said the judge.

Most prominent among his family in the courtroom was his wife, psychologist Gwen Goldsby Grant, sister, Rosita Arrastia and son, Ralph III.

Gary Harris' sisters and several ex-staff members escorted his drive of some two months.

Others in the courtroom were a curious mixture of community activists, senior citizens, potential candidates for Harris' vacant council

seat and the just plain curious who had a fatal attraction for Newark politicians.

As expected, Grant rose to the occasion when asked if he had anything to say. In a voice that rang with conviction he said, "I am not an ax murderer. I have never molested a child. I have never picked up a gun and pointed it at anyone. I am not corrupt. I am innocent."

Grant was among the first group of black politicians swept into office when Ken Gibson became the city's first mayor of color and African Americans became the majority council members.

He was a long time recruiter for Shaw University, he helped the institution become a "college without walls" in Newark, putting college degrees within the reach of thousands of students in the Essex County area.

He was an activist in changing Newark's political landscape, an early advocate of Pan-Africanism and

black empowerment and a character member of the black and Puerto Rican coalition that eventually brought both groups

Rose M. Spears, executive director of a non-profit organization, Quality Lifestyles, Inc. (Baxter Terrace Scholarship Committee), deserves a deep bow of appreciation for rekindling fond memories of the way one Newark neighborhood used to be. Several weeks ago current and former tenants celebrated the 55th anniversary of James M. Baxter Housing Project (JMB) on Orange Street. Not only were these apartment complexes named for James M. Baxter, Newark's first black high school principal and founder of the city's first and only high school for African Americans, but they were the city's "experiment" in low rise public housing.

When JMB was built 55 years

See A1 SEE, page 6

Myrlie Evers-Williams: A force for change

by Roy S. Johnson



Myrlie Evers-Williams

The correspondences are everywhere. They cover the kitchen table, the counter tops and fill the side of the bed where her late husband used to sleep. The pages are filled with words of support, encouragement and hope.

The telephone won't stop ringing, from just after dawn until darkness wanes, the rural skies. Above her home in Bend, Oregon, parade of voices fill her house with words of strength and inspiration—but also with questions.

She should come as no surprise that Myrlie Evers-Williams seems tired. It hasn't yet been five months since she accepted the reins as chairwoman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), following a contentious internal struggle that nearly choked the life from the august civil rights organization.

She has since buried her second husband, Walter Williams, who died after a long illness just days after her one-vote victory over Dr. William F. Gibson, the group's embattled incumbent chairman, last February in New York. And she has struggled to navigate the aftermath—a sea filled with jealousy, doubt and fear.

Evers-Williams is often frazzled by the questions and uncertainty surrounding the future of the NAACP, which is in the midst of the most trying period of its 86 years of existence. But she has already proven to be a survivor, a warrior whose spirit has rebounded from setbacks no one of such humanity should endure. And, while sometimes weary, she is unwavering in her determination to lead the way toward reestablishing the NAACP as a vital and relevant force in these challenging times.

"There are people, black people who ask whether we even need a NAACP anymore," said Evers-Williams during a conversation in which she outlined her vision of renewal which will be delivered at the NAACP's annual conference in Minneapolis, July 8-13. "Of course we do. How can anyone who reads the newspaper or looks at the news full of cuts in the school-lunch program, health care and affirmative action even question it?"

"The NAACP has problems, many of which could and should have been avoided, but the fact is we're dealing with them. We were there when the struggle was being waged to obtain equal rights and opportunities. We are here now, and we will continue to be a force in assuring that there is no erosion of the gains this organization helped to create."

Still, the questions persist as to

how the organization will move forward. It has been barely a year since the NAACP's troubles became public by the stunning disclosure that executive director Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., who had been in office for 16 months, had agreed to pay more than \$300,000 of the organization's funds to settle a threatened sexual harassment and discrimination suit leveled by a former employee.

That episode ignited perhaps the most embarrassing saga in the organization's storied history, a fiscal tale of woe punctuated by a reported deficit of roughly \$4 million and allegations of extravagant and questionable financial practices by some of the board members, most notably Gibson.

In the wake of the financial revelations, donations from major corporations and foundations—the NAACP's lifeline—declined dramatically, prompting a painful "reorganization" that forced dozens of layoffs and unpaid furloughs for many long-time and loyal employees.

Even worse, the reputation of the NAACP, once the nation's most esteemed civil-rights organization, had become tarnished. Its proud image, forged by the contributions and sacrifices of thousands of soldiers of the struggle, seemed diminished by the misdeeds of a few.

Out of this quagmire emerged Myrlie Evers-Williams, the 61-year-old widow of former NAACP field secretary Medgar Evers, who was gunned down outside his Jackson, Miss. home more than 32 years ago; the mother of three grown children; the former Congressional candidate, former commissioner on the Los Angeles Board of Public Works and former director of community affairs for Atlantic Richfield who, having lived 42 years of her life in the organization, the last 10 as a member of the board of directors, may be the best, last hope for the

NAACP

Another hurdle is the selection of a new executive director, a position which has been vacant since Chavis was ousted last August. Former Atlanta mayors Maynard Jackson and Andrew Young are rumored to be among the favorites and, while Evers-Williams will not comment on the candidates, she candidly lists the skills she believes the selection must possess.

"He or she must be a strong administrator who knows how to run a business and manage people. He or she must also be able to make tough decisions and still be humane. Finally, we need someone who is a communicator and possesses a background that indicates an involvement in the movement or at least a sensitivity to the events that shaped it," said Evers-Williams. A search committee is expected to make its recommendations at the organization's October board meeting.

Other plans call for forging the national office into the hub of a more efficient, dynamic and productive organization. She would like to see the NAACP create and distribute pamphlets outlining its history and mis-

sion; establish a speakers' bureau comprised of board members who, in making personal appearances, will "reach out and touch" the association's constituency, and ease onto the information Superhighway by forming a relationship with a major computer company that will enable the NAACP to enhance its communication capabilities particularly between the national office and local branches. In addition, she expects to eliminate some of the organization's numerous committees, restructuring them to be "more manageable and better focused."

Queried, with an eye towards Minneapolis, as to the assistance she needs to fulfill her agenda, Evers-Williams spoke emphatically. "What I need most is support—in capital letters. I need moral support from those who have been a part of the NAACP over the years. I need them to reaffirm their belief in the existence of the organization by actively soliciting memberships in their communities and by being prepared to tell our story."

"I need the young people who have not yet embraced the association and who have said that it is not relevant to what is happening in their lives to withhold their criticism until they come into our fold and help us formulate an approach for attacking the issues that affect them most. I need the corporations and foundations that have lost faith in us to give us a chance to prove that the NAACP is now going to operate as a business."

"You know," said Evers-Williams returning to the letters, voices and questions that have become a part of her life, "I had no idea this would be a 26-hour-a-day process. But the work must be done, the story must be told. The NAACP is going to survive and thrive."

Roy S. Johnson is an award-winning journalist and senior editor at MONEY magazine.

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YOUTH BEAT

KIDS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12
NEWARK—Brier Rabbit and the Wonderful Tar Baby and How the Leopard Got His Spots (movies) at the Newark Museum for youth ages 5 and up. Show time is 1 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6550.

PLAINFIELD—Conversations with an actor discussion for teens at United National Bank from 6 to 7:30 p.m. For more info call 908-756-5000, ext. 2366.

THURSDAY, JULY 13
METUCHEN—"Snow White" (1 day) at the Forum Theater at 10 a.m. For more info, call 908-548-0582.

THURSDAY, JULY 14
ATTENTION—"College for kids" and "Academy" sessions for school-children of all ages at Union County College (all campuses). For more info call 908-709-7600.

SATURDAY, JULY 15
EAST ORANGE—Kids Fest: "The Circus is Coming" at Sovel Park at 11 a.m. For more info call 201-266-5147 or 5123.

SUNDAY, JULY 16
NEW YORK—"Latino Carnival" for kids of all ages at Lincoln Center. For more info call 212-875-5102.

MONDAY, JULY 17
PLAINFIELD—Beauty tips for teens program at United National Bank at 2 p.m. For more info call 908-756-5000, ext. 2366.

Karen Drake graduates Beard School with honors



MORRISTOWN—Karen Drake, of Plainfield is among the 72 seniors at Morriscrow-Beard School who received their diplomas at Commencement exercises on Saturday, June 10. Drake graduated cum laude and received Presidential Fitness Award for Educational Excellence.

Tips for a productive summer

NEW BRUNSWICK—High school students who will be seniors in September should pay special attention to how they spend this summer and start to plan now for the year ahead.

According to Elizabeth Mitchell, assistant vice president for undergraduate admissions of Rutgers, "This should be the most productive summer of the past four years. Each year students want to drop their classes immediately after final exams but there are several steps that can be taken now to lessen tension during the fall."

Become a college-bound tourist and visit the colleges of your choice: Summer is a good time to visit college campuses, this way students can form a realistic opinion from a summer visit even though they will not witness the campus at its normal pace. "Besides, students who make college visits during the school year often fall behind in class work and have to complete assignments when they return to school," she points out.

Rent video tapes of campuses

and view them at home: If you cannot visit each college of interest, rent videotapes of the college campuses and view them with your parents. Videotapes of Rutgers are available through Search by Video, a Pennsylvania company that offers videotapes of college campuses nationwide. To order a tape from Search by Video, call 1-800-248-7177. Video tapes of Rutgers are also available free from each high school in the state.

Call ahead and make an appointment to see an officer from admissions and financial aid: Both admissions and financial aid offices experience a very busy period in the spring, but will have much more time to meet with prospective students in the summer.

Try to meet with faculty in your subject area of interest: Faculty members are eager to talk with students who share their interests and the college might be seeking to increase enrollment in that area.

Read, read, read: Read for fun, read college catalogs and books that talk about careers, and, even more

important, read to improve your vocabulary. An avid reader usually has a good vocabulary, which will translate into better scores on the verbal portion of standardized tests.

Begin now to prepare for the SAT: If you plan to take a preparatory course, summer is the time to do it. It is difficult to study for the more advanced classes taken in 12th grade while preparing for standardized tests and completing college applications.

Get a summer job: Students can help parents by putting away a few dollars from summer earnings to purchase items they will need for college. A job also indicates that you have been productive and used your time wisely.

It is important that students continue to challenge themselves and not take an exceptionally light load of courses in the senior year, Mitchell says, but warns against overload and burn-out during the senior year and points out the importance of maintaining high grades even after being accepted by the college of their choice.

Little and Gadegbeku graduate Oak Knoll



Annette Gadegbeku



Amira Little
Photos courtesy of Oak Knoll School

SUMMIT—Amira Little, of Newark and Annette Gadegbeku, of Plainfield recently graduated from Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child in Summit. They received their diplomas in graduation exercises held at the Summit school on June 11.

Little was a member of the Oak Knoll Publicity Club and SHADES (the cultural awareness group). A leader in her class, she served as president of Oak Knoll's Black Scholars.

Gadegbeku was recognized at Oak Knoll as a scholar and musician. She served as vice-president of the Oak Knoll Ensemble and was a six-year member of the school's Concert Choir. She was elected its president this past year.

Committed to service, Little volunteered as a counselor at the Boys' and Girls' Club and was a tutor at St.

Rose of Lima in Newark. In recognition of more than 200 hours of service over the past year, she won an Oak Knoll Service Award. She will attend Temple University, in Philadelphia, Pa.

Gadegbeku is also an accomplished dancer of ballet, point and jazz. Recognizing her abilities as a pianist and composer, she won the Outstanding Musician Award given by Oak Knoll's Creative Arts Department this spring.

Her other interests at Oak Knoll included membership in Black Scholars and SHADES. For outstanding performance in the study of a foreign language, Annette was inducted into the French Honor Society. She was also a participant in a minority high school student research apprenticeship program. She will attend Brown University, Atlanta, Ga.

Newark holds second annual soccer camp

NEWARK—The Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs (DORCA) has announced its second annual "Newark Soccer Camp" being held July 10-14, at the John F. Kennedy (JFK) Recreation Center.

The sports clinic is open to Newark boys and girls ages seven to 14 with instruction from 9 a.m. until noon daily. Alphonse Prophete, assistant national "A" Team coach and

head coach of the Essex County College soccer team, will serve as the camp's head clinician.

James, "Soccer gives many more youngsters, who do not participate in traditional sports, the opportunity to explore something other than basketball, football and baseball. It's a fantastic opportunity not to be missed."



Pictured (l to r) Malikah Mason, assistant principal; Tahina Reyes, Taniesha McPhaul and Judith Loudmilk, vice president of Irvington General Hospital. The event was held during the recent Respiratory Awareness Month event sponsored by Irvington Hospital Foundation.

Photo courtesy of Irvington Hospital

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RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

THRU JULY 15
PLAINFIELD—Awesome Adventures
God's Amazing Deeds (Vacation Bible School) at First-Park Baptist Church from 8 to 8:30 p.m. For more info call 908-756-5332.

JULY 16-20
SEDAUCUS—Church leaders (100) gather at Meadowlands Convention Center. For more info call 908-756-7300.

SATURDAY, JULY 22
SCOTCH PLAINS—Christian Group Three Crosses at Evangel Church. For more info call 908-322-9500.

HEALTH CALENDAR

THRU JULY 14
CRANFORD—"Healthy Therapy Put to Use" five-day 30 credit seminar at Union County College from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 908-233-8810.

JULY 13, 20
IRVINGTON—Community High Blood Pressure Control Program, sponsored by the Dept. of Health's Nursing Division, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 201-359-6652.

TUESDAY, JULY 18
CRANFORD—"Hypertension" preventive health seminar at Union County College at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-708-7600.

JULY 20-22
GHANA, AFRICA—Second International African Symposium on Sickle Cell Disease/4th of Ghana. For information write to: The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Attn: Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, 324 S. 34th St., Philadelphia, PA 19104-3787 or call 215-590-3423.

STARTING JULY 25
MILLBURN/Support group for family and friends of cancer patients at Cancer Care. For more info call 201-378-7500.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17
IRVINGTON—Community High Blood Pressure Control Program, sponsored by the Dept. of Health's Nursing Division, at the Senior Citizens Center from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 201-359-6652.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
HOBOKEN—North Central Regional Chapter of the American Diabetes Association will host Walktoberfest at Steven Institute of Technology. For more info call 201-226-1022.

EVERY SUNDAY
TUNE IN—Conversations with Carrie a live call-in program which discusses various health topics can be heard from 9:30 to 10 a.m. on WPAT 630 AM.

City holds day of learning to fight AIDS



NEWARK—The Newark Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Newark Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA)/HIV Health Services Planning Council recently sponsored the "Newark EMA Day of Learning: Brightening Your Horizon" at Rutgers University-Newark. The day included various workshops, exhibits and keynote speakers Melvin La Costa (right) and Rafael Rodriguez—both members of the EMA/HIV Council's HIV Infected and Affected Persons (HIAAP) Committee. The other organizers were (l-r): Nick Macchione, EMA executive director; Dr. John V. Tesoriero, EMA president; Earline Holloway, EMA/HIV Planning Council; Douglas Morgan, assistant commissioner of Health; Geneva Morrison, EMA/HIV Planning Council and HIAAP co-chair, and La Costa. The seminar brought together people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, service providers and all those working to develop a common agenda to address the HIV/AIDS crisis within the Newark EMA (Essex, Morris, Union, Sussex and Warren counties).

Photo by William Rames

Enroll your child in craft camp

N. PLAINFIELD—Are you looking for something for your kids to do this Summer? Something that's fun and unusual, constructive and challenging—something that promises to eliminate the eternal "mom,

I'm bored" phrase that makes mothers everywhere cringe? Well, look no further. Fabric Land, on Route 22 in North Plainfield, is offering a Children's Craft Camp. Get their creative juices flow-

ing by enrolling them in weekly sessions of sewing or needle art classes, and you'll be amazed at what your kids can do.

Beginner sewing students, for ages eight and up, will be introduced to concepts of color and style while learning proper use of tools and how to fully operate a sewing machine. Students get a chance to select their own fabric to create drawing or tote bags, hair accessories, pencil-cases, shorts and skirts.

For ages five and up, beginner needle art students will learn basic forms of various needle art and keep their finished products. This helps improve hand-eye coordination and gives them the confidence to see projects through from beginning to end. Projects include sand art, picture frames or a necklace made from fabric and beads.

Each session is four days a week, two hours a day, with times in the morning or afternoon. Sessions run through July and August, with both beginner and intermediate levels available. Tuition is \$65 per session, plus the cost of supplies. For more information call Fabric Land at 908-755-4700.

Photo by William Rames

HHS holds health seminar for women



NEWARK—Carla Potter, health educator for the Newark Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), presents information at the AIDS/HIV awareness and prevention seminar for women entitled, "Just For Me," held recently at the municipal agency. The program, designed for and by women, is part of a series of HHS-sponsored mini-conferences that presents information on the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and the HIV virus, resource networks and cancer prevention. For more information call 201-733-8178.

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SET YOUR SIGHTS ON

SUMMER SAFETY

For most people, summer is the season for outdoor activities, vacations and having fun in the sun. But it is also the time of year when children and adults are more susceptible to a host of ailments. Make the most of summer by following these common sense precautions.

Beat the Heat

Always drink plenty of fluids, like water and sports drinks, to avoid dehydration. Don't overdo it between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. when the sun is strongest. Consider staying indoors during the hottest midday hours. Following these precautions will help protect you from heat rash, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Whenever you're outside, wear a sunscreen or sunblock to prevent painful sunburn and to help prevent future skin cancer.

Protect Against Insects and Ivy

The bite of an infected deer tick can cause Lyme Disease and requires early detection and treatment. If you decide to walk in the woods, avoid wearing perfume or hairspray, and wear long pants, socks and a long-sleeved shirt. Learn to identify poison ivy, oak and sumac, which can cause itchy skin rashes and swelling.

Have a Healthy Trip

If you're traveling, it's a good idea to bring a supply of aspirin, bandaids, antiseptic ointment and other first aid supplies. Remember to bring your insurance information and your doctor's phone number. When traveling by car, always wear seat belts.

Be a Sport

Before jumping on a skateboard, strapping on in-line skates or hopping on a bicycle, equip yourself with the appropriate protective gear. Helmets can prevent serious head injuries. Wrist, elbow and knee pads protect against fractures and sprains sustained from a fall. Stay alert for cars and other road hazards.

Swim Safely

If you can't swim, take lessons before engaging in any water sport. Always swim in the presence of others, preferably a lifeguard. Determine the water's depth before diving in and, if possible, check the bottom for broken glass or other debris. Wear flotation devices when boating.

If an injury or sudden illness should occur, Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Emergency Department is there to help you, 24 hours a day, every day.

FREE

"Summer Survival Kit"

Send in this coupon for your free "Summer Survival Kit," including a sunblock pocket pack and an informative booklet on Lyme Disease.

Mail to: Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center
Community Relations Department
P.O. Box 1272, Plainfield, NJ 07061

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone (optional)

PCN 61995

Protect your home while on vacation

Let's face it, this is family vacation time. While you're away having the time of your life right now your home could be burglarized.

Before going on vacation pay special attention to securing your home and valuables. Here are some tips to begin with:

- Always lock all doors and windows before leaving home.
- Never leave keys outside where they can be found easily.
- Always seal burglar alarms and

automatic timers on lights.

- Never announce your absence on your answering machine.
- Always notify the police when you go away on vacation.
- Never let mail accumulate, have a neighbor pick it up.
- Always make arrangements for lawn cutting.
- Never keep large amounts of cash at home.
- Always keep valuables in a bank safe deposit box.

As I see...

Continued from page 4

ago segregated housing was still a fact in Newark. Blacks lived in buildings on the north side of James Street, whites on the south side and in the buildings facing Sussex Avenue.

In the early days there was something special about living in Baxter Terrace. A code of behavior was closely monitored by the Housing Authority staff and tenants observed it carefully. The few families with children kept their kids under control and confined to playing areas in their courtyards, facing apartment entrances or adjoining parking lots.

A spirit of community has always marked the lifestyles of tenants or who lived there in the past. At 1955 reunions, 130 residents, 13 award winners were honored by a capacity crowd. Some guests came from California, Florida and Texas to renew old friendships and to talk nostalgically about the Newark that was "In the good old days."

Grants

Continued from page 1

Congressman Richard Zimmer accepted an award on Zimmer's behalf for his assistance in directing Kasmir's philanthropic efforts to help the Trust Fund.

"Nothing is more important than making sure our children are safe and secure," said Whittman. "I applaud those agencies and organizations whose mission it is to prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens. I congratulate them on their successful participation in this grant program."

Among the programs supported by the fund are parenting education classes for teen mothers, visiting nurse programs for at-risk newborns, mentoring programs for boys and girls, support groups for grandparents and programs for families of substance abusers.

One of the programs that has been funded by CTF for the last two years, "Count on Me Kids," run by the Camp Fire Boys and Girls in Ocean and Burlington counties, was featured. Several children listened to stories about safety and protection using story board characters, Kristy and Todd.

Whittman and Waldman also praised the efforts of the nine New Jersey residents who volunteer their time to serve on the Child Life Protection Commission, the citizen board that administers the fund and selects grant recipients.

War

Continued from page 1

the House last month voted \$267.3 billion for increased defense spending in 1996. That is \$7 and \$10 billion more than the Pentagon requested for itself. Rep. Curt Weldon (R-PA) said, "This is not an increase; it's just stopping the hemorrhaging."

In fact, it is so much of an increase that it comes close to ending the post-Cold War decline in arms spending. What will we spend on? Seymour Melman reports that both the White House and the Republicans want to fund six existing aircraft programs as well as major new naval craft: the B-2 Stealth bomber; F-18 Navy fighter; F-22 Air Force fighter; C-17A Air Force transport; V-22 Osprey Marine vertical-lift transport plane; Army Apache helicopter, and the Navy's New Attack Submarine and CVN-76 carrier-class of which he says are "superfluous."

He argues that they exist to produce corporate profits and preserve local jobs, not to defend our national security. The total cost of these programs is \$391.4 billion.

Who else gets the money? Again, related organizations like the National Security Agency, use up about \$28 billion annually. The Pentagon's administration and financing of foreign military sales will cost \$45.5

Vintage Views addresses HIV/AIDS and seniors

ELIZABETH—During the month of July, Union County's cable TV program for seniors, *Vintage Views*, will cover the increasing occurrence of HIV/AIDS among senior citizens and the potential for personal disaster, due to the senior population is largely unaware of this situation.

Vintage Views is made possible through the facilities and technical direction of TKR Cable Co., Elizabeth, and is available throughout Union County. The program can be seen as scheduled: Elizabeth, TKR Cable, channel 12, Monday 6:30 p.m., Wednesday 6 p.m., Plainfield, Summit Cable, channel 20, Monday 5:30 p.m., Summit Area, Suburban Cable, channel 36, Monday 12:30 p.m., Thursday 5:30 p.m., other locations, Suburban Cable, channel 32, Thursday 7:05 p.m. For further information about *Vintage Views*, or comments on programming, call Lou Coviello at 908-527-4872.

"The programs you have selected represent the best our communities have to offer in the battle against child abuse and neglect," said Waldman.

The commission offers funding to community-based programs for a total of three years on a "step-down" basis. Under this formula, the programs receive 100 percent funding the first year, 80 percent of the original award during the second year and 60 percent of the original award during the third year. CTF funding ends after the third year.

"It is always difficult to decide which programs to fund because so many of them are so deserving of funding," said Ruth S. Faith, chair of the Child Life Protection Commission. "We are very pleased to have been able to increase the number of programs we are funding this year."

Funding for the grants comes from \$325,153 from the New Jersey taxpayers who checked off a donation on their state income tax returns; \$556,851 from a federal prevention grant and \$7,925 from other donations.

CTF grants are competitive. The commission selects programs based on the program's ability to identify, intervene and assist families and children at risk of abuse and neglect. The commission selects the agencies to be funded and monitors the effectiveness of the programs. Administrative costs are paid by the state, allowing every dollar donated to be used to prevent child abuse and neglect.

million from 1996 to 2002.

The major nuclear weapons laboratories—Los Alamos, Livermore and Sandia—cost at least \$3 billion a year. America's outlay for NATO is \$80 billion a year. Our 1995 military budget of \$224 billion exceeds the combined military budget of all other NATO members, which is \$147.6 billion. Each of these programs could be cut sharply.

The joint chiefs are preparing to fight two wars at once against so-called rogue states: Cuba, Syria, Libya, Iraq, Iran, and North Korea, whose combined current military budgets total only \$9.6 billion.

The Commission on Military Base Closings has recommended program reductions, and the President must approve or disapprove them by July 15. Many of his political advisors are urging him to keep certain military bases open in California for political reasons—i.e., to protect jobs in a key electoral state.

It is certainly cruel to close bases and leave trained workers unemployed and families destabilized. The alternative is to convert workers' military skills to civilian use, and military facilities to meet civilian needs. Under such a scenario we would actually gain, not lose jobs.

Again, Melman reports that almost half the nation's badly damaged housing could be rebuilt for \$98 billion.

See WAR/page 8



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BUSINESS CALENDAR

THRU JULY 26
CRANFORD—Materials Management
 course on Mondays and Wednesdays
 from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. For more info call
 908-709-7600.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12
SOUTH ORANGE, NJ—Business
Protocol in the Pacific Rim from 5 to
 7 p.m. at Seton Hall. Call 201-578-
 9938.

JULY 16-23
DETROIT, MI—60th Annual National
Association of Negro Business and Pro-
fessional Women's Clubs Convention
 Call 313-865-8230.

JULY 17, 18
NEW YORK—Retail Financial and In-
urance Services Database Marketing
Summit at The World Trade Insti-
tute. For more info call 212-399-0050.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
CHICAGO—Mobi Apparel Sports
Business Symposium at the Dusque
Museum. For more info call 312-578-
 1888.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
SOUTH ORANGE, NJ—Business
Protocol in the Pacific Rim from 5 to
 7 p.m. at Seton Hall. Call 201-578-
 9938.

JULY 19-23
OAKLAND, CA—8th Annual Con-
vention & African American Business
Expos. For more info call 415-774-
 1888.

THURSDAY, JULY 20
NEWARK—Wage Record/UDI-DI
Financing And Unemployment Pro-
cesses seminar at the Radisson Appo-
litan Hotel. For more info call 609-
 984-6797.

BRIDGEWATER—Advertising Tech-
niques, Effective Direct Mail And
Media Advertising Workshop. Open
 to all. For more info call 908-225-1552.

MONDAY, JULY 24
CHERRY HILL—Wage Record/UDI-DI
Financing And Unemployment Pro-
cesses seminar at the Sheraton Poste
l Inn at 8:30 a.m. For more info call 609-
 684-6797.

War

Continued from page 6

tion. Education would be vastly im-
 proved by spending the \$100 billion
 meant for public school building
 maintenance, and \$4 billion could be
 spent to finance major federal educa-
 tion programs. For \$15 billion we
 could raise the financing of higher
 education to the same annual per-
 student rate as Japan's.

For \$180 billion we can electrify
 all mainline railroads. A \$135 billion
 capital investment would improve and
 maintain the nation's publicly owned
 and maintained waste-water treatment
 facilities.

Projected military expenditures
 for 1996 to 2002 total \$11.9 billion,
 much of it political pork. Twenty-six
 of the 31 states represented by mem-
 bers of the House National Security
 Committee will receive nearly \$500
 million in new barracks, family hous-
 ing, and other military construction
 projects that the Pentagon did not ask for.

Preference

Continued from page 3

tion to racism. That means everybody
 except the hard-line advocates against
 any and all changes in current affir-
 mative action and contract set-aside
 rules and regulations. Add to the list
 their opposite number the hard-liners
 who want to throw out the baby with
 the bath water and claim there is no
 need for any special consideration of
 any kind for anybody.

On June 12, 1995 the U.S. Su-
 preme Court, by a 5 to 4 vote, agreed
 with popular public opinion in its rul-
 ing on the Adarand case. The suit was
 against the Department of Justice
 and claimed that the equal protec-
 tion component of the 5th Amend-
 ment due process clause was violated.
 The court ruled there must be "strict
 scrutiny" to insure equal protection.
 Justice Sandra O'Connor for the said,
 "All governments must keep racial
 politics out of the equation when deal-
 ing with discrimination" and there
 must be compelling proof of govern-
 mental interest and identifiable dis-
 crimination "despite the unhappy per-
 sistence of both the practice and in-
 flicting effects of racial discrimination
 against minority groups."

Government cannot have a com-
 pelling interest in penalizing one race
 to benefit another. So, out goes race-
 based preference. So, out goes the
 courts. That leaves the option of
 special consideration for the poor
 of all races. On this point, the Dole-
 Gingrich Republicans and the Clinton-
 Gephardt Democrats stand on com-
 mon ground as the struggle continues.
 Stay tuned.

COMMENTARY

by Robert N. Taylor

There is no problem currently
 facing blacks in America which
 would not either be eliminated as a
 problem or at least converted into
 less of a problem if we were a wealthier
 people.

This is a powerful statement and

it is not meant to suggest that money
 is the solution to all of our problems.
 But it does seem to suggest that the
 number one imperative of African
 Americans in the last years of the
 20th century must be to build wealth
 and financial security. Why?

Wealth-building must be the number

one on every black person's agenda

Multi-million dollar loan pool approved for minority businesses

WASHINGTON, DC—The U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) has signed an agreement with the Money Store Investment Corporation, to provide a \$150 million dollar loan pool for minority businesses.

The loan pool was established to promote and encourage minority business formation and expansion across the country. The Community Capital Group, the Money Store Investment Corporation's minority lending de-
 partment, will also provide technical advice and assistance to minority

businesses in formulating loan applications to take advantage of the loan pool funds.

MBDA Director Joan Parrotti-Fonseca and Lawrence J. Wodarski, president of the Money Store Investment Corporation signed the agreement at a ceremony at the Department of Commerce banquet room.

"This agreement is another example of the financial community's growing commitment to minority business. We look forward to working with the Money Store to make these funds available in local communities throughout America," Parrotti-Fonseca said.

'World of Opportunity' conference helps minority businesses expand into the 90s and beyond

WASHINGTON, DC—The American Association of Minority Businesses Inc. (AAMB) is hosting a series of conferences titled "World of Opportunity: Solutions for Minority Entrepreneurs."

This two-day conference scheduled for August 11 and 12 at the Marriott in Troy, Mich. is designed to give minority entrepreneurs up to date and valuable knowledge on new financing opportunities, expanding opportunities, secrets to accessing capital in America and the growth potential of second tier purchasing.

AAMB, a non-profit trade association headquartered in Charlotte, NC, developed this conference especially for minority business owners to address an array of topics that answer their technical, financial and managerial concerns.

By using the collective "buying power" of the minority business community, AAMB is able to negotiate corporate level preferred pricing on products and services such as health care insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, retirement plans, travel services, computer equipment,

business equipment, reduced rate loans, access to affinity cards, long distance and much more.

Keynote speakers include Dr. Dennis Kimbro, author of *Think and Grow Rich*, author of *Success Starts in Our Race*. Speakers will provide motivational insight into not only their goals, but how you can achieve your goals and aspirations. If you are a minority business owner, don't miss Frasier's breakout session on "Elements of a Successful Business."

"Our purpose in developing this conference series for the minority business community of Detroit is to provide an enjoyable and educational forum for CEOs and entrepreneurs. We hope to create an environment where entrepreneurs have an opportunity to network with other entrepreneurs and get the "secrets" of success from the experts and companies that are leaders in their chosen areas," notes AAMB President Charles Kelly.

For more information and registration contact AAMB's "World of Opportunity" Center at 1-800-381-2262.

Control

Continued from page 1

said Education Commissioner Leo Klagholz.

A hearing was scheduled in February, but the state, at their request, was granted a "summary judgment"—a ruling in favor of the case without the trial-like hearing.

The state's decision to seize the district has captured the attention of several organizations including local and state branches of the NAACP who claim the state take-over "offers no guarantee of improved education for the learners (children). The primary focus appears to be the removal and displacement of administration staff. They further claim the take-over would strip Newark citizens of their voting and veto powers."

"The take-over offers no specific plan or agenda, including no timeline for improving the 'real education' of children. Too many political overtones and overtures down for the major thrust—quality education for children...After all is said and done, the children are the most precious item and jewel of which we can boast. Watch-over, Not Take-over!" read a NAACP statement.

Commissioner Klagholz says he agrees with the NAACP and says the state wants to cooperate with and involve the parents and citizens of Newark in the decision making process. Klagholz admitted that the state will attempt to handle the operation of the Newark School system differently from the Paterson and Jersey City school systems.

"I want to make sure the superintendent and the people in the central office are accountable, that they hold their jobs for one reason and one reason only...and that's doing what's right for the children," said the commissioner, via telephone interview.

The Newark board may be able to

resume control from the state after the year 2000 and the commissioner says they will begin to prepare for that to happen at once.

"We have to start from the first day plan for a return to local control. I think (that is) one of the things we haven't done as well in the Jersey City and Paterson. We waited for the five years and then said 'How do we do this?' (turn control over to the district)," Klagholz said.

According to the state report, Newark's trouble with the state dates back to 1984, when Newark's first formal evaluation was taking place through out the state. The district failed to meet standards and was directed to issue a corrective plan, which it did. However, in 1986, a Level II monitoring was conducted for failure for non-compliance with the plan.

In 1992, a Level III monitoring system was conducted for Newark's second failure to meet state regulations. At the conclusion of this monitoring system, it was reported that Newark had failed to meet minimal state standards. In May of 1993, the then commissioner, Mary Lee Fitzgerald, ordered the CCI. This spring, current state commissioner recommended that the Newark school system become state controlled.

Klagholz has selected an African-American woman to the head of the newly appointed board. Deputy chancellor of the New York City schools, Beverly Hall, will assume the position of interim superintendent.

Barbara Anderson, assistant commissioner, Division of Student Services, in the New Jersey State Department of Education will be acting superintendent until, Hall steps in July 17, pending the court's decision.

because economics is the foundation of social life. And for too long the economic foundation of black America has been weak.

Let it be known to all who are willing to listen that anything built upon a weak economic foundation is going to be weak. The simple fact is that virtually every problem we face as a people either had its origins in poverty or poverty makes the problem worse. Education, political empowerment and pride are all needed. But none of them represent the fundamental need of our people.

We need money! Economic empowerment! This is the one area in which we have not been nearly as productive as we should have been. We must produce more than we consume or earn more than we spend.

United Jersey Bank opens branch in Newark

NEWARK—United Jersey Bank held grand opening ceremonies for its newest branch, located at 186-204 West Market St. in the University Shopping Plaza in the city of Newark. The 1000-square-foot office is currently the only bank branch serving the city's University Heights section.

The new branch features a night deposit drop and an automated teller machine that also accepts the Family First Card. Two of the seven employees working in the Newark office are Spanish-speaking.

"It should be evident...that we have very positive feelings about Newark's future," said Thomas J. D'Angelo, senior vice president and regional manager. "We are actively pursuing retail business, as well as seeking to support small business growth."

Through the Newark office, United Jersey will focus on serving consumers and small businesses in the area and is offering several grand opening bonuses to new customers. Customers who open a United Jersey checking account in the Newark branch through July 31 will receive an extra 1/2 percent interest on either a subsequent savings account or a five-

month or nine-month CD, and they will get their first order of checks free. Customers who open a Small Business Checking Account in the Newark branch by July 31 will receive six months of free business checking service.

United Jersey's commitment to the city of Newark will extend beyond the provision of banking services. For example, the bank is implementing a management training program for recent college graduates who are Newark residents. United Jersey Bank will work with the Urban Enterprise Zone and local colleges to locate qualified applicants.

United Jersey also is offering two scholarships of \$1,000 each in conjunction with the grand opening celebration. One scholarship will reward excellence in the visual arts, and the other will reward excellence in the performing arts. Applications for the United Jersey Bank Arts Achievement Scholarships are available in the Newark branch. The application deadline is August 31, with winners to be announced October 2. The scholarship competition is being administered through Scholarship Foundation of America, a non-profit organi-

zation that seeks out and rewards outstanding students throughout the United States.

On hand for the ceremonies were Councilman George Branch of Newark's Central Ward, D'Angelo and United Jersey Bank's Anthony J. Allora, executive vice president in charge of the Residential Mortgage Division.

well during a recent interview. He told the reporter, "If black people want more respect, they should get more money."

But it is not enough to just talk about it. Blacks should form or join organizations which have their primary purpose making them wealthier by engaging in good sound business practices.

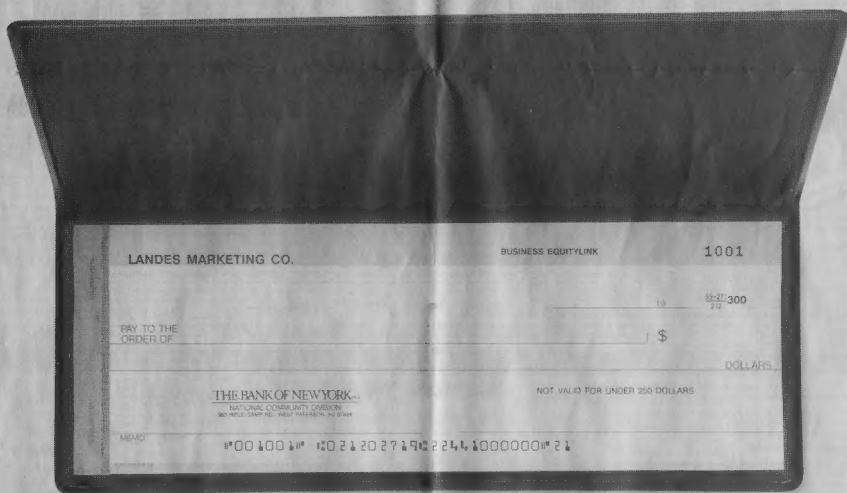
In regard, everyone reading this column should write the Better Life Club of America. This is a black self-help and economic empowerment group which is making impressive strides in getting blacks started in businesses and in investing. The group also has debt reduction and credit restoration programs. For more information call 1-800-748-1821.

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